



Dear Parents and Carers,

12th July 2021

We suddenly find ourselves in the last week of the school year. And what a year it has been. I have to acknowledge that for many, including myself, this year has been tough. However, the constant of our students and our staff and families working together has made it much easier than it may have been. I have said thank you for your support many times this year, and this is because I genuinely mean it. Together as a group we have navigated the unknown, adapted and meanwhile have just tried to carry on as normal too.

It fills me with pride walking round our school and visiting lessons. Highlights in the last week have been 'free cooks' in catering, performances in performing arts, videoing our Haverhill Heroes speeches, great practicals in science, lovely languages art work... the list goes on and on. A big thank you to our teaching and support staff for everything they continue to do to offer high quality lessons every day.

I want to offer a warm welcome to parents of our incoming Year 6 into 7 students, who join us on Wednesday for a three day transition process and also join us in August for our summer school.

We have turned our planning to the start of term, and last week were issued with instruction from the government that we need to test every student twice in September as we return to school. We will issue more information later in the week with exact timings, but wanted to let you know as soon as possible the changes to the start of term where we will now have a staggered start to the year to allow us to test.

Date	Testing (detailed timings to be confirmed)	In school
Monday 6 th	Year 7 and 11 and go home. The Arch test at 8.30am and go to lessons	The Arch students
Tuesday 7 th	Year 8, 9, 10 test and go home	Year 7 and 11 and The Arch
Wednesday 8 th	No testing	All students in school
Thursday 9 th	Year 7 and 11 and The Arch second tests- during school day	All students in school
Friday 10 th	Year 8, 9, 10 - during the school day	All students in school

Unity Schools Partnership is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 07400386. The registered office is at Unity SP Offices, Park Road, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7YD.

Headteacher: Mrs. Vanessa Whitcombe

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This slightly staggered start will allow us to get all students tested once before they come into lessons in school and allow that extra layer of protection. Current guidelines mean that in September masks are no longer recommended, however students and staff are welcome to wear them if it makes them feel more comfortable. We will be retaining our morning 'muster' first thing and some of our other practises which make the flow of the school safer - we will keep a supply of sanitiser in place and encourage use of this very regularly.

We will be saying farewell to some of our staff team on Friday and wish them all the best in their next steps. We have been delighted to have these staff team working with us as part of their career. I am sure you add your good wishes too.

Miss Cianciola, Associate Assistant Headteacher/Achievement Leader Year 11.
Mrs Johnston, Second in Science.
Mr Griffiths, Science Teacher.
Mr Payne, Maths Teacher.
Miss Hornby, Languages Teacher.
Mr Lester, English Teacher.

Our school is growing in numbers of students, and we are oversubscribed in Year 7 in September. We welcome several new colleagues, 5 of whom have already started with us as they get to know the school and prepare for September

Mrs Reilly, Assistant Headteacher.
Mrs Richards, Specialist Teacher in The Arch SEND Hub.
Miss Kitchiner, Second in Science.
Mrs Cook, Science Teacher.
Miss Pagni, MFL Teacher.
Mr Tabrar, Maths Teacher.
Mrs Luntz, Geography Teacher.
Miss James, English Teacher.
Mrs Chilvers, Teaching Assistant, The Arch.
Miss Hilliard, Mainstream Teaching Assistant.
Miss Petchy, Mainstream Teaching Assistant.
Mrs Byrne, Student Medical Needs Officer.

I am really aware that this is a lot of information to process, and I have also attached a list of our tutor groups for September and classrooms. We will still be using separate entrances for the start of term, with Year 7 and 8 in the front entrance,

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Year 9 at the side and Year 10 and 11 in the back entrance to school. We will be reminding students and parents of this at the end of the holidays. We are still finalising class groups for Year 8 and 9 for September as COVID restrictions are set to reduce and allow us to have different tutor groups and teaching groups. We will be letting students know if there are group moves before the end of the week.

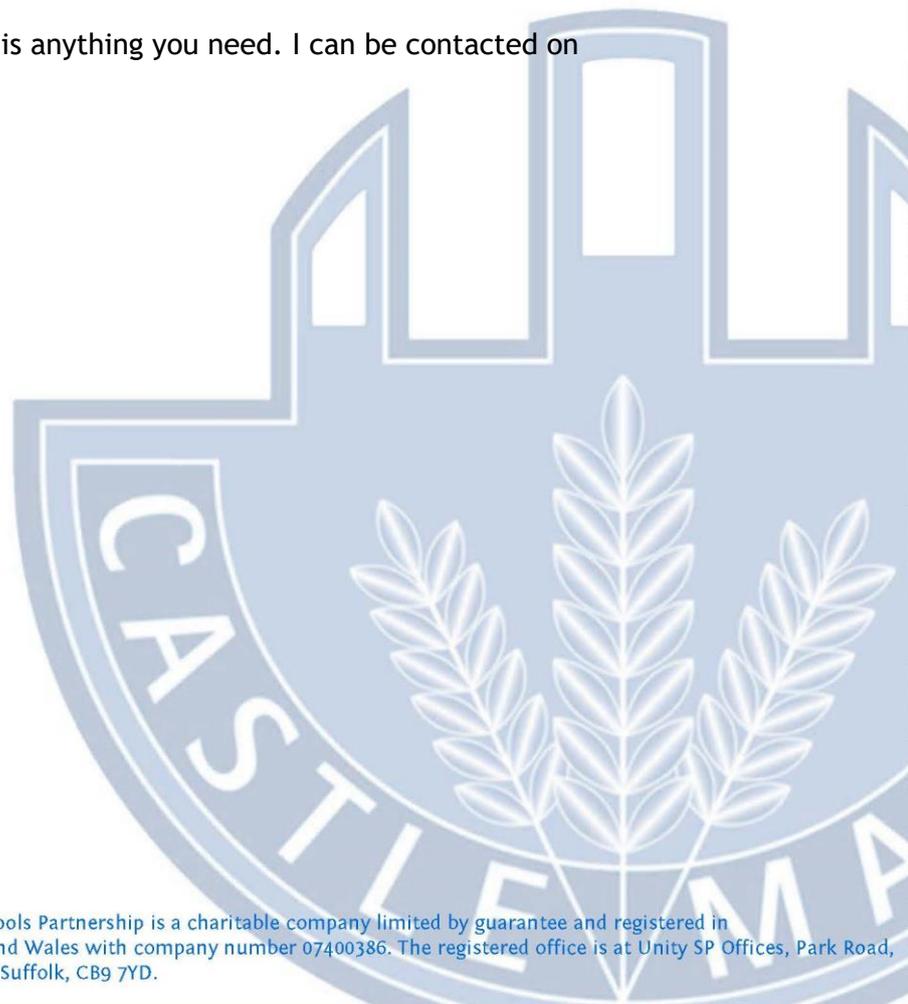
I have also included the term dates and parents evening dates for the year for your information.

Thank you also for continuing to test at home and for taking students for COVID tests if they have any symptoms. Please can we remain especially vigilant to this for this last week of term and hope that we have no isolations into the summer holidays. We will be expected to conduct track and trace during the first week of the holidays if there are any positive cases in our school community. If this does happen please report it by email to covidtestreport@unitysp.co.uk

As ever, please be in touch if there is anything you need. I can be contacted on VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk

With my best wishes

Vanessa Whitcombe
Headteacher



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